

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 /079 W  
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R 011611Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9409

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINSHASA 7352

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CG, CF, PFOR, CT

SUBJECT: NGOUABI-MOBUTU MEETING AUGUST 28-29

REF: KINSHASA 7156

1. FOLLOWING NGOUABI'S VISIT TO ZAIRE AUGUST 28-29, JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED STRESSING NEED TO IMPROVE BILATERAL RELATIONS. TWO PARTIES AGREED TO REVIVE 1972 JOINT COMMISSION, TO INCREASE COOPERATION IN USE OF COMMON WATERWAYS, AND TO INVITE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC TO JOIN IN LATTER ENDEAVOR. HIGH-POWERED ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL DELEGATIONS AT MEETING (ZAIRIAN COMMISSIONERS OF TRANSPORT, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT, CONGOLESE MINISTERS OF COMMERCE AND PUBLIC WORKS) CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR WORKING OUT DETAILS OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

2. BOTH SIDES DEPLORED MBAMU ISLAND INCIDENT AND PLEDGED TO AVOID REPETITION OF SIMILAR CONFRONTATIONS.

3. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST PUBLIC MENTION OF INCIDENT IN WHICH ZAIRIAN TROOPS, REACTING TO DISTURBANCES IN KINSHASA AND BRAZZAVILLE FOLLOWING FOOTBALL MATCH, REPORTEDLY INVADED

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CONGOLESE ISLAND IN ZAIRE RIVER LAST APRIL AND INFLICTED

CASUALTIES ON LOCAL CONGOLESE POPULATION.

4. SERIOUS INTERNAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF ZAIRE AND CONGO APPARENTLY HAVE LED TWO LEADERS, PARTICULARLY NGOUABI, TO SEEK TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC COOPERATION. DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS KALONJI SUGGESTED AS MUCH TO POLCOUNS DURING DISCUSSION ON OTHER MATTERS. NOTING GOZ SIDE HAD HAD TO INCREASE ITS DELEGATION AT LAST MINUTE IN LIGHT OF SIZE OF CONGOLESE TEAM, HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT THIS FIRST TIME SINCE 1974 "TECHNICAL" MEETING BELOW HEAD OF STATE LEVEL HAD TAKEN PLACE.

5. IN LIGHT OF GROWING CONGOLESE CONCERN OVER CABINDA (REFTEL) AND DESIGNATION OF ZAIRIAN NAVAL CHIEF AS GOZ'S HEAD OF ZAIRIAN-ANGOLAN COMMISSION, IT POSSIBLE THAT NGOUABI AND MOBUTU ALSO AGREED TO EXPLORE PROBLEMS ARISING FROM CONTINUING INSTABILITY IN ANGOLA.  
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